



Washington State
Department of Transportation

Washington State Ferries Weekly Update



Jan. 23, 2015

This week:

- Ridership numbers for 2014
- Senate Energy, Environment and Telecommunications Committee
- Reserve now for spring travel
- Gray whale
- Customer compliment

Ridership numbers for 2014

I am happy to report that [ridership was up in 2014](#). We served 23.2 million total riders last year, which is up 2.7 percent from 2013. We carried 10.2 million vehicles and 6.7 million foot passengers. We are the largest ferry system in the United States and one of the largest in the world. I want to thank our customers for their patronage and our employees for their hard work and dedication.

Senate Energy, Environment and Telecommunications Committee

We presented to the Senate Energy, Environment and Telecommunications Committee on Wednesday regarding liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a potential fuel source for the WSF fleet. You can view our presentation on twv.org and learn more about our look at LNG [online](#).

Reserve now for spring travel

On Jan. 22, we released the first 30 percent of vehicle reservation space for spring travel, March 22 through June 13, on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands routes. Reservation space is released in three tiers, with a total of 90 percent of spaces on each sailing available for vehicle reservations. Spring break and Memorial Day weekend will bring large crowds, so we advise you to [save your spot](#) on the ferry by making a reservation online. WSF staff are also available to assist our customers by phone from 4:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. daily by calling 206-464-6400 or 1-888-808-7977.

Gray whale

We were saddened to discover a deceased gray whale underneath Colman Dock late Wednesday evening. My heart is heavy knowing that the beautiful waters of Puget Sound lost one of its magnificent mammals this week. Thanks to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Fish and Wildlife for their assistance in managing this issue. I greatly appreciate our employees and customers handling this situation with the utmost sensitivity.

Customer compliment

We received the following compliment from a customer of the Anacortes/San Juan Islands route. I want to thank the Anacortes terminal staff for assisting this customer!

Kudos to the staff that helped my wife and I out the other morning. We arrived at [the] Anacortes terminal to find our car with a dead battery, and we were on our way to Seatac to catch a flight. AAA said they would be 1-2 hours, so I went into the ticket booth and Jeanie contacted the employee loading cars and they got me the jumper pack - started the car right up! And everyone was very kind and helpful throughout. Thanks to the staff, we made it to the airport and were able to catch our flight. Thank you for your help!

Lynne Griffith
Assistant Secretary WSDOT/Ferries Division

Hyperlinks within the email:

Traffic Statistics: www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/traffic_stats/annualpdf/2014.pdf

TVW: www.twv.org/index.php?option=com_tvwplayer&eventID=2015011114

LNG: www.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/Environment/LNG.htm

Vehicle reservations: <https://secureapps.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/Reservations/Vehicle/default.aspx>

Weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at

www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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